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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-89-182

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Chad

Planning Minister Killed in UTA Crash

AB2109102089 Ndjamea Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 21 Sep 89

[“Communique” from the Presidency of the Republic]

[Excerpt] The 19 September tragic accident involving a DC-10 aircraft from the French airline UTA with some 170 persons on board, including 29 Chadians, is not just a tragedy for the bereaved families but is also a cruel loss for the nation at large. Comrade Soumaila Mahamat, minister of planning and cooperation and one of the highest cadres in the (?party), was on the ill-fated aircraft.

On this painful occasion, the president hereby conveys profound sympathy, on his behalf and on behalf of the Chadian Government and people, to the bereaved Chadian and foreign families. A 3-day period of national mourning has been decreed. [passage omitted]

Security at Ndjamea Airport Discussed

AU2009204889 Paris AFP in English 2020 GMT
20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Paris, Sept 20 (AFP)—[passage omitted] Noting the terrorist bomb theory, a French trade union [not further identified] said in a statement Wednesday that security measures at Ndjamea had been slackened in February, despite union warnings of the dangers.

UTA later Wednesday said that security at Ndjamea Airport had been stepped up after the hijacking of an Air Afrique plane to Geneva in July 1987, but “had been relaxed a few months ago”.

A spokesman said passengers used to be searched and that security staff travelled in the planes.

“When the risks receded, the dispositions were lightened, but from time to time we made surprise body searches for deterrent purposes and baggage checks,” the UTA spokesman said. [passage omitted]

Zaire

AZAP Comments on Border Accord With Zambia

AB2009151189 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0845 GMT
20 Sep 89

[AZAP commentary: “Zambia-Zaire Border Accord, an Example for Africa”]

[Text] [No dateline as received] The summit attended by eight central and southern African heads of state in Kinshasa—from Zambia, Angola, Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Sao Tome and Principe, and Zaire—on the Angolan issue resulted in very encouraging conclusions, notably, the drafting of a declaration to be submitted to the leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. The presence alone of eight heads of state at the Kinshasa summit, the presence of the representative of the Egyptian head of state and OAU current chairman, and the possibility offered to UNITA to conduct negotiations in order to bring about national reconciliation in Angola, demonstrated the commitment of the African leaders to bring about an atmosphere of detente and peace in the (?subregion). [passage indistinct] the Zambian and Zairian heads of state took the opportunity of the presence of their counterparts to sign an agreement on the demarcation of a portion of their common border. The agreement was signed on Monday [18 September] by Zaire and Zambia and will peacefully and definitively solve a (?century-old) conflict that could have led to very serious incidents and, even more, deteriorating relations of good-neighborliness between two brotherly peoples.

The political will showed by Presidents Mobutu and Kaunda has enabled the two countries to overcome the obstacles and initiate a policy of dialogue, as recommended in both the OAU and the UN Charters, that conflicts should be resolved through peaceful means. If we take into account the various border conflicts that have plagued Africa—some of them latent—congratulations are in order to Zaire and Zambia, who solved their border dispute in a positive way through peaceful means and refused to engage in any armed confrontation. They charged a commission of experts in 1982 to look into the issue, whose report was submitted 7 years later. Presidents Kaunda and Mobutu [words indistinct] the conclusions and proposals made by the commission and which constitute [words indistinct] from now on the common border between the two countries.

The treaty signed in Nsele and the first of its kind in the post-colonial history of Africa will set an example and show the world that Africans are capable of settling their border disputes through peaceful means without any external interference. The African way of settling disputes, the palaver, has once again proved to be an efficient instrument.

May this example be emulated by other African countries, especially as far as border conflicts are concerned.

Ethiopia

Peace Talks To Resume 18 Nov in Nairobi

EA2009204889 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The preliminary peace talks held in Atlanta, Georgia, since 7 September, between the Ethiopian Government delegation and the opposition group in Eritrea for resolving the conflict in Eritrea autonomous region, have ended with both sides agreeing to resume the talks in the Kenyan capital after two months.

Mr Jimmy Carter, former U.S. President, who had mediated the preliminary talks, gave a press statement last night on the details of the agreement reached by the two sides during deliberations on procedural matters in the last 13 days. Mr Carter said that the two sides agreed to meet in Nairobi on 18 November to resume deliberations on the remaining three points of the 13-item agenda that had not been resolved at the Atlanta talks. He said the agenda items for the substantive peace talks on which both sides had agreed would be retained and the Nairobi meeting will be devoted to the three remaining items.

Mr Carter said that the two sides, during the forthcoming meeting in Nairobi, would choose two co-chairmen willing to serve as mediators vested with equal authority and responsibility to preside over the substantive peace talks. The two sides would also determine the number and the role of observers who would attend the talks and decide on the function of the secretariat and its members.

Mr Carter said that except for these three items the two sides had reached agreement on all issues. According to Mr Carter, the two co-chairmen would decide, following consultation with the two sides, on the venue of the substantive peace talks from among six countries suggested earlier by consensus. These are Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Egypt, and the Yemen Arab Republic. The two sides have agreed to take part in the main peace talks, each with a delegation not exceeding 12 members.

Further, they agreed that if agreement is not reached on certain issues, the co-chairmen have the authority to intervene to help them reconcile their views and patch up their differences. In addition the secretariat would be set up to help the two co-chairmen, the composition of which is to be decided during the forthcoming talks. The rules and procedure for the main peace talks would be prepared by the co-chairmen and would be applicable with the consent of the two sides.

The two sides signed a document last night detailing the talks and the points they had agreed upon during the Atlanta talks.

Kenya

Zimbabwe's Mugabe Arrives for Visit 20 Sep

EA2009112389

[Editorial Report] Nairobi Domestic Service in Swahili at 0838 GMT on 20 September carried a live relay from

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on the arrival of Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe. The radio reports he was welcomed at the airport by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi. Mugabe left for the State House, Nairobi, after inspecting a guard of honor. Mugabe is in Kenya on a 1-day visit.

Meets Moi on Mozambique

EA2009212189 Nairobi KNA in English 1540 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 20 September—Presidents Daniel arap Moi of Kenya and Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe today met at State House, Nairobi, to review the preliminary discussions already held between Mozambican church leaders on behalf of the government on the one hand, and representatives of the Mozambican National Resistance [Renamo] on the other.

In a statement released through the minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr Robert Ouko, the two heads of state also explored their modalities of approach to the Mozambican peace process in the context of what is already discussed by the representatives of both the Government and Renamo.

During the meeting, President Mugabe also briefed President Moi on the recently concluded meeting of eight heads of state, held in Kinshasa, Zaire, on the Angolan peace process.

And during a luncheon President Moi hosted in honour of President Mugabe, the Kenyan leader expressed hope that the Mozambican peace initiative would succeed as soon as possible to avoid any more loss of precious human lives.

Noting that history was full of woeful tales of the suffering of the black race, President Moi said Africans had to be proud of achievements arising from their own creativity, however modest, instead of priding themselves upon the inventions of others. President Moi said he was a strong proponent of the dignity of the African person who, he said, had for a long time been looked down upon by other races.

President Mugabe hailed the relations between the two countries, which he said had a common colonial past. He pointed out that as the two countries were engaged in looking for a peaceful solution to the Mozambican turmoil, their bonds of friendship were becoming even stronger. The Zimbabwean leader especially noted that Kenya's social transformation, against a colonial background, was commendable, adding that his country had a lot to learn from it. President Mugabe said Zimbabwe was closely studying Kenya's successful land distribution process in order to follow the example. He thanked President Moi for his generosity and his elaborate reception arrangements despite their meeting's short notice. [passage omitted]

Departs for Home 20 Sep

*EA2009174089 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today at State House, Nairobi, held talks with President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. President Mugabe, who was in Kenya for a 1-day official visit, left for home shortly after 3:30 pm and was seen off by his host, President Daniel arap Moi. [passage omitted]

Uganda

'Top Rebel Leader' Reportedly Killed

*AB2009170089 Paris AFP in English 1137 GMT
20 Sep 89*

[Text] Kampala, Sept 20 (AFP)—A top rebel leader, Major Okello Kolo, has been killed by government

troops in Uganda's northern Kitgum District, the government-owned NEW VISION newspaper reported Wednesday.

Major Kolo was killed 26 kilometers (17 miles) east of Kitgum town where he had been leading a little known splinter group of the rebel Uganda People's Democratic Army (UPDA), the Uganda National Independence Revolutionary Organization (UNIRO).

The paper quoting eye witnesses, said the rebel leader was shot dead after a tip off, but did not say when. Major Kolo deserted the National Resistance Army (NRA) in 1987.

He was instrumental in the ouster of former President Milton Obote in a military coup in July 1985. He later deserted the military council under General Tito Okello to join Yoweri Museveni's NRA's guerrilla army.

President de Klerk Inaugural Address 20 Sep*MB2009114089 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1014 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[Inaugural speech by State President F.W. de Klerk at the union buildings in Pretoria; passages within quotation marks in English—live]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed dignitaries, countrymen:

To start, heartfelt thanks from my wife and I, firstly, to all of you for being here today, to all those involved in these excellent arrangements, to all those who prepared the inauguration ceremony, and to all South Africans who, over the past weeks, gave us so much love and warmth, in prayer and support.

"In my first public address after my election as leader of the National Party, I made the following statement:

"Our goal is a new South Africa, a totally changed South Africa, a South Africa which has rid itself of the antagonisms of the past, a South Africa free of domination and oppression in whatever form, a South Africa within which the democratic forces, all reasonable people align themselves behind mutually acceptable goals and against radicalism, irrespective of where it comes from.

"In this, my first public address after my inauguration as state president, I repeat that statement. This time, I do so not on behalf of the party, but on behalf of the new, lawfully constituted government of the Republic of South Africa, a government with a clear mandate for reform and renewal."

The implementation of this mandate is our highest priority. The new government will be sworn in tomorrow. It will start work immediately on the details of practical steps to achieve our goals. Therefore, I deem it inadvisable to express details, but what is important today is that I commit myself and the government to the practical implementation of our mandate at effective speed, and this I do with conviction. We are determined to put our words into action.

A significant amount of preparation has been done, and we are fully aware of the need for speedy progress in many areas. This is our task, without being rash or overly hasty.

"We accept that time is of the essence, and we are committed to visible evolutionary progress in various fields. This we will endeavor to attain within the framework of the principles of our mandate.

"I am aware, ladies and gentlemen, that we have raised certain expectations during the past months. We intend to live up to them, because we believe in what we advocate. I am, however, also aware of other unreasonable expectations which have been aroused. In many cases, this has been benevolently; in others, less so. While we are quite prepared to be tested against our

undertakings, we cannot accept responsibility for over-enthusiastic or even twisted versions of our policy."

Before I discuss the future, I want to pay tribute to my predecessor. He dedicated a lifetime of loyal service to South Africa. It was his courage that placed our country on the road to reform and renewal. On behalf of South Africa, thank you Mr and Mrs P.W. Botha for your huge contribution to the interests of South Africa over the years.

The mandate of 6 september irreversibly placed us on the road to a new South Africa. Implementing this mandate will place great demands on the government. It is a comprehensive and complex task. At the same time, it also raises great challenges for all the people of South Africa. Progress on the road to constitutional reform, to which all right-thinking South Africans look forward, does not only depend on me and the government. In the same way, the government is not the only determining factor in our search for greater economic growth and improved international relations. Of course, we can be expected, and justly so, to lead and to take the initiative. We shall not hesitate to do this. After all, we accepted the challenge to lead the way to renewal.

The other side of the coin, however, is the attitude and reactions of other actors in the various focal points where progress is so desperately needed. For this reason, ladies and gentlemen, I today call for a new spirit and a new approach in our country. For many years progress was hampered by, among other things, a refusal to cooperate, distrust, suspicion, and, critics of the government would say, also through actions and inaction by the government itself. I do not want to argue about cause and effect on this occasion. We will not get a new South Africa going with accusations and resentment. A row about who erred when and where is a dead end for South Africa and all its people. It will get us nowhere. Protest over injustices or alleged injustices in the past will get us no closer to the solutions, and less still will unrest and violence. There is only one way to peace, only one way to justice for all. It is the way of reconciliation, of a common search for a mutually acceptable solution, of discussing the new South Africa. It is the way of constitutional negotiations with the goal of achieving a lasting agreement. It is the way of joining in, joining in with a balanced economic plan that will ensure growth and break the back of inflation. It is the way of acceptance of the sacrifices and adjustments that are required from everyone.

"More than anything, the watershed at which South Africa finds itself demands of all our people a commitment and the will and determination to reach a peaceful accord—the demands of all South Africans to rise above their fears and suspicions and to start building a new South Africa. The time has come, ladies and gentlemen, for South Africa to restore its pride; to lift itself out of the doldrums of growing international isolation, economic decline, and increasing polarization. On this day, on which I assume the highest office in our country, I want to pledge myself, to pledge myself to a quest for peace through fairness and justice. And I invite all my fellow

countrymen and women to join me in this quest. In particular, I address myself to all the leaders of South Africa, irrespective of their sphere of leadership, be it political, economic, religious, educational, journalistic, or whichever other sphere. All reasonable people in this country, by far the majority, anxiously await from the leadership of South Africa a message of hope. It is our responsibility as leaders in all spheres to provide that message, realistically, with courage and conviction. If we fail in that, the ensuing chaos, the demise of stability and progress, which will come, will forever be held against us. History has thrust upon the leadership of South Africa the tremendous responsibility to turn our country away from its present direction of conflict and confrontation. And only we, the leaders of our people, only we can do it. The eyes of responsible governments across the world are focused on us. The hopes of millions of South Africans are centered around us. The future of southern Africa depends upon us. We dare not falter or fail."

It will not be easy. Fine words, lofty speeches, and stirring appeals do not mean peace will descend upon us. No, much more will be required from all sides. Today I want to commit myself and the new government to a concerted effort on our part to remove the real and alleged obstacles from the road to peace and accord.

First, I want to convert election promises into real government commitments. In the new government's term particular attention will be given to five focal areas: First, we shall do everything to bridge the deep chasm of distrust, suspicion, and fear between South Africans. It is time to realize unity within our diversity. A broad national consensus must be developed around the common core values already shared by the great majority of South Africans. Togetherness and cooperation, while retaining security, is the recipe for the future. We say that we will devise this recipe with all leaders from all communities.

Second, from the outset the process of negotiation will receive intensive attention. Where it is necessary, a completely new approach will be used to remove obstacles. Each one of us knows, and every South African knows, that dialogue and negotiation between all who seek peace is the key to the future.

Third, we shall open the door to prosperity and economic growth. We will do this by breaking out of the international strangulation imposed for political reasons on our potential economic growth. Along with this is the determined and consistent execution of an all-encompassing economic plan, which will include strict discipline in state spending, lower taxes, privatization, deregulation, increased exports, and import substitution. A prosperous economy is a prerequisite for success. In cooperation with our private sector, we say that we will put our country on the road to stable economic growth and prosperity.

Fourth, we shall create a new constitutional dispensation in which all South Africans shall participate but without domination. Experts would be brought together to

examine all possible constitutional models which can achieve this objective. There are good examples elsewhere from which we could learn.

Our constitutional discussion will get a clearer direction. Domination shall be eliminated, and participation for all shall be ensured.

Fifth, we shall continue to handle unrest, violence, and terrorism with a firm hand. Consensus and cooperation can only succeed among people who have the will to attain peace and who are prepared to sacrifice for peace. Radical organizations which are only interested in taking power are eliminating themselves from this process. Their violence, law breaking, and intimidation are obstacles on the road to peace. We will not allow the peace process to be disrupted through violence and anarchy.

Ladies and gentlemen, I believe that with respect to these five focal points, if we act in this way, and if a new spirit awakens in South Africa, and if all responsible leaders in South Africa stand up and be counted and become part of this new spirit, then I believe we will break away from the evil circle of stagnation and distrust, of division, tension, and conflict, and that we will break through to a new South Africa.

"Furthermore, we shall also take certain initiatives with regard to exactly those matters which so frequently are raised as obstacles by opponents of the government. We shall do this because we believe civilized norms to demand this, because we believe it is in South Africa's best interest and not because we buckled to pressure. We shall work urgently on proposals with regard to the handling of discriminatory legislation. The continued removal of discrimination remains an important objective. We shall work just as urgently on the formulation of alternative methods of protecting group and minority rights in a nondiscriminatory manner. This includes urgent attention to the place and role of a human rights bill and constitutional methods to eliminate domination."

The process of releasing security prisoners shall be continued as it was begun by my predecessor. However, the test still remains whether it is proper on the basis of relevant circumstances, whether it would not bring the existing order into disrepute, and whether it would promote the process of peaceful solutions. Through the strict but fair maintenance of law and order together with the implementation of our action plan, we shall try to create a climate which should make it possible to lift the state of emergency or to at least gradually move away from it.

"In southern Africa, the Republic of South Africa is willing to expand the constructive role that it is already playing in this region. On the basis of good-neighborliness, nonintervention, and healthy cooperation, southern Africa can enter into a new era of stability and prosperity. To that end, my government and I will exert ourselves. In South-West Africa, we will continue to fulfill consistently our part of the agreed process. We expect all other parties to do the same."

Ladies and gentlemen, we are in earnest about all these points. We are committed to them. When I say all these points, I am urgently appealing from the position of leadership conferred upon me.

"My call to the international community is: Take note of what is happening in South Africa. There is a determination among millions of South Africans to negotiate fair and peaceful solutions. Use your influence constructively to help us attain that goal. If ever there was a time to adopt a positive attitude towards the positive developments in South and southern Africa, that time has arrived."

To the leaders and the people of South Africa, my appeal is: Help me in governing. Help us to make a breakthrough to peace. Do what you think is right. Build together a new and just South Africa. Go down together on your knees and pray that God almighty gives us all the wisdom and strength to meet this big challenge, for in his hand rest the fortunes of people and nations.

With all my limitations, I am at the service of the Republic of South Africa and all its people. I thank you all.

Opposition Leaders React to Inaugural Speech

*MB2009162489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1606 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Sept 20 SAPA—Opposition parties, responding to state President Mr F.W. de Klerk's induction speech today, welcomed and criticised what both the left and the right sides of the political divide referred to as a reformist but unoriginal speech.

Dr Andries Treurnicht, leader of the right-wing Conservative Party, said Mr de Klerk had made "certain well-known statements" and described the new state president's power sharing ideals as "the big political lie".

He warned against any attempts to "try and force together disparate races into one political system". Lessons in history had taught that similar attempts had ended in "disastrous conflict".

There was no political formula for accommodating the demands for freedom for different races, "except a policy of separate freedoms...on separate territories," Dr Treurnicht said in a statement.

Democratic Party (DP) co-leader Dr Zach de Beer said Mr de Klerk's speech was "suitable for the occasion" but said the talk "contained nothing new".

Mr de Klerk had "at least repeated the more enlightened passages from the (National Party's) election campaign," Dr de Beer said.

"He committed himself heavily to the principle of negotiation and to a society in which all would participate politically without discrimination."

Everything now depended on the steps Mr de Klerk and his party were going to take to "deliver all this rhetoric".

As far as the DP was concerned, it would lend support to any genuine moves Mr de Klerk made in the direction of a more open and peaceful society.

"But if he slips back into group-based thinking, we shall in all probability part company," Dr de Beer said, adding that the DP now awaited developments.

Inauguration of President Detailed

*MB2009160089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1430 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[By Dirk van Zyl]

[Text] Pretoria Sept 20 SAPA—The overall impression on today's inauguration of Mr F.W. de Klerk as South Africa's second executive state president, was one of solemnity and dignity, rather than of ostentation.

There were, of course, just the necessary flashes of military and religious pomp and splendour befitting an occasion of national import, but, it seemed clear to observers, a proper reserve was applied in these days of economic austerity.

The highlight of the days formalities was the solemn declaration and signing of the oath of state by Mr de Klerk in the Universiteitsoord Ned Geref Kerk [Dutch Reformed Church] before an assembly representing a large slice of South Africa's establishment dignitaries.

Officiated by South Africa's chief justice, Mr Justice M.M. Corbett, the swearing in and the signing ceremony, shortly before 11am, was watched in awed silence by about 1,500 people in the church.

The attention then moved to the amphitheatre at the union buildings, where a crowd of about 3,500 waited in eager anticipation to hear their new president's first public address in his new capacity.

As the proud De Klerk couple arrived at the west wing entrance, they were met by a guard of honour of the state president's guard, and a 21-gun salute boomed over the city.

A flypast by four Impala jets, spewing a trail of orange, white and blue exhaust smoke, added lustre to the occasion.

President de Klerk delivered his address to the backdrop of Pretoria's skyline—bedecked in azure on a perfect spring day.

A special touch was when, at the end of the ceremony, four young South African children of different races walked up to the presidential couple and presented Mr de Klerk with a Bible and Mrs de Klerk with a bouquet. This gesture by the youth could just very well epitomise a new era of change and renewal promised by President de Klerk.

Or so the optimists among us would hope....

New Cabinet Sworn in 21 Sep

*MB2109074789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0743 GMT 21 Sep 89*

[Text] Pretoria Sept 21 SAPA—South Africa's new cabinet was sworn in this morning at the Presidency in Pretoria, thus formalising one of the last pieces in the jigsaw of the country's new administration.

Today's ceremony was presided over by South Africa's chief justice, Mr Justice M.M. Corbett, and follows the inauguration yesterday of the new state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk.

President de Klerk chairs the cabinet.

Also sworn in today were the 10 deputy ministers, and the ministers' councils of the Houses of Assembly and Representatives.

The new ministers' council of the House of Delegates still has to be finalised, while the new president's council is to be composed next week.

Parliament is to meet in Cape Town to choose those president's councillors it elects, while President de Klerk is to nominate those he is entitled to in terms of the Constitution.

According to top government sources, one of the first items the cabinet is expected to give attention to is the possible release of political prisoners like ANC [African National Congress] leaders Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu.

A government-supporting morning newspaper today speculated that a decision on Mr Mandela's release could be made as early as within the next week.

Commentary Notes De Klerk's Commitment to Future

*MB2109053089 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 21 Sep 89*

[Station commentary: "The state president's address to the nation"]

[Text] As South Africans start the new day this morning, they are also entering a new era in their country's history. It is an era in which the political face of South Africa will

be changed fundamentally and irrevocably. That is the clear message to the nation from the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, as he spoke on radio and television from the amphitheatre of the Union buildings in Pretoria immediately after his inauguration as head of state and head of government yesterday.

Mr de Klerk gave a commitment to the future. The future, he suggested, could not be built on recrimination about the past; the need was to look to the future. And Mr de Klerk, who will be swearing in his cabinet later today, indicated that his new administration was determined to get on with the job of building the new South Africa.

The inauguration speech confirmed that the chief priority is for decisive action in respect of political and constitutional reform. Towards this objective, there is a pressing need to end the violence and unrest in the country and to bridge the distrust, suspicion and fear that divide South Africans. For his part, the state president has given a commitment to the creation of a more relaxed and stable political climate through the removal of what are seen in some circles as obstacles to negotiations and to the peaceful broadening of democracy in South Africa. In this respect, Mr de Klerk undertook yesterday to give attention to the question of the release of security prisoners and to the question of the state of emergency.

At the same time, as the state president stressed, national security remains paramount. In this regard, those who break the law or commit violence must be dealt with in a firm manner. But reasonable South Africans—the overwhelming majority of the population—must identify common values on which they can build the future together on the basis of a common purpose and a common loyalty to South Africa.

In his inauguration speech yesterday, President de Klerk said the time had come to turn election promises into action, and to fulfill reasonable expectations that had been created about the government's intentions. He urged all South Africans to join him in building the new South Africa. In this, the state president mirrors the new mood in the nation at large—that now is the time to overcome that which divides communities, and to build the future on those values that they share and have in common. The new era the country is entering is one that will touch the life of every South African, and it is one to which all can make a positive contribution.

Zimbabwe

* Land Reform, Redistribution Discussed

* President's Heroes Day Message

34000736a Harare THE HERALD in English
12 Aug 89 p 1

[Article by Willie Zweni and Sam Munyavi: "President Calls for Revolutionary Land Reform Programme"]

[Text] Zimbabwe has reached a stage where it needs a revolutionary land reform programme to ensure uninhabited land redistribution and reorganisation of the present peasant agriculture system, President Mugabe said yesterday.

He told thousands of people at Heroes Acre that the present constitutional strictures had to be loosened to allow for a more courageous land redistribution programme, more comprehensive and meaningful than the present ad hoc approach.

"It makes nonsense of our liberation struggle that the majority of our peasant families have remained the outcasts of our land tenure system," he said.

"True, we have provided price incentives and extension services to them, but what real land resources are available to the rural peasant families for both cropping and cattle ranching?"

A revolutionary land reform programme aimed at redressing the situation now had to be the goal of the Government, said Cde Mugabe to applause from the thousands who had gathered at the Heroes Acre to remember the country's fallen heroes.

As a result of certain constitutional limitations, only some 45,000 families, out of the hundreds of thousands who desperately needed land, had so far been resettled.

"Our freedom struggle always recognised the question of land as the principal grievance."

Cde Mugabe said the past nine years of independence had been a period of deliberate policies, pursued by Zanu (PF) [Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front] and the Government, to ensure the enhancement of the hard-earned freedom.

"Freedom that yields no improvement in the quality of life is hollow," he said.

The government had since independence placed emphasis on the education of all children and the provision of adequate health and sanitary facilities, accommodation and services such as water and electricity.

It had also laid stress on building and maintaining the country's roads and bridges and the development of production programmes in all the sectors, bearing in mind the need to create employment.

"The result has, in many respects, been phenomenal," said the President.

"The average Zimbabwean is today, nine years after independence, clearly distinguishable, and in very many ways, from the Zimbabwean (or was it black Rhodesian?) of the 1970s.

"Not only is he a free person, enjoying all civil liberties and cherishing high hopes about his future, he also has the right to determine who shall rule him and who shall not."

Cde Mugabe, however, acknowledged that there are still constraints and limitations affecting the individual's development. While the political imbalance had been corrected, social and economic imbalances were still glaring.

"While we are delighted that all our children can go to school for at least 11 years and have access to health facilities everywhere in the country, we are dismayed that most of them will at the end of their schooling have no jobs," he said.

It also had to offer the right to work, that is, the right to employment at an adequate salary, said Cde Mugabe, adding that it was because of this realisation that the Government had begun laying emphasis on investment and creation of employment.

The President said he had described some of the country's developmental efforts since 1980 to answer the question of whether the fallen heroes would, had they remained alive, have taken freedom and independence as the final goal of the liberation struggle.

"I am sure they would have, in their jubilation over our victory, also recognised that the ensuing freedom and independence was only but a means whereby political, social, economic and cultural goals would be attained.

"They would, therefore, have continued the struggle for the betterment of our society. That is precisely what our party and Government have tried to do and shall always do."

* No Land Seizure

34000736a Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE
in English 29 Jul 89 p 1

[Text] Harare—The Government will continue to buy land for resettlement on a willing seller-willing buyer basis, but may take measures to induce reluctant owners to sell, President Mugabe said here yesterday.

Answering a question at a Press conference, President Mugabe said if land owners were willing to sell their properties, the Government would buy the land at commercial rates, but could be forced to use legislation to acquire the land if the owners refused to sell.

"If they are unwilling, the national interest must make them willing.

"We don't want to do it compulsorily. We really want to continue doing it this way (willing seller-willing buyer). Our stance is to talk to the farming community as a whole," he said.

Under the British-brokered Lancaster House constitution, the Government could only buy land on a willing seller-willing buyer basis, but with that provision expected to expire soon, communal farmers, politicians and some church leaders have been calling for urgent action to solve the land imbalance problem.

President Mugabe said he felt land which as being put to good use should not be purchased.

"But these are matters for negotiation," said President Mugabe.

* Nkomo Speech to Farmers

34000736a Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE
in English 10 Aug 89 p 19

[Text] Government does not intend to grab land from commercial farmers when the Lancaster House agreement terminates in 1990. However, it cannot stand by while 400,000 displaced people need land.

Addressing the CFU's [Commercial Farmers Union] annual congress last week, Dr. Joshua Nkomo, Senior Minister in the President's Office, assured delegates that government did not want abrogate the constitution and would not go around grabbing land. Despite this, land had to be found in the commercial sector to relieve the over-populated and over-grazed communal areas.

"We must sit together to address this problem. To start with, the land issue was one of the most difficult problems to be resolved during the discussions of the Lancaster House agreement. The British were concerned about what would happen to the commercial farmers and thought that arresting of land would take place. Government does not work like this," he said.

Dr Nkomo said that at its inception, the Government of Zimbabwe inherited a land distribution system that not only worked against the establishment of a stable and multi-racial society, but which also encouraged extensive and under-utilisation of resources in the commercial sector as well as gross degradation and over-utilisation of land in the other sector.

"This situation was morally unacceptable, economically, unjustifiable and politically untenable. Thus government embarked on a comprehensive national programme of rural resettlement which sought to intensify land utilisation in both the communal areas, resettlement areas and in the under-utilised parts of the commercial farming areas," said Dr Nkomo.

Since the inception of government's resettlement programme some people had criticised government and accused it of buying land which it could not put to good use, Dr Nkomo stressed.

He said these criticisms had been based on insufficient information and a lack of appreciation of the post-independence Zimbabwe situation.

Of the 295,166 hectares of land not yet settled, 63,917 hectares were bought in the last financial year. "So it could not have been planned and settled to date. This leaves 231,249 hectares not yet settled, which amounts to only about 8.52 percent of the total acquired land so far.

"This unsettled land is not distributed equally across all provinces and neither is it distributed equally across all the agro-ecological regions. About 83 percent of this land is in Matabeleland South, 13 percent in the Midlands and 7 percent in Matabeleland North.

"It was these provinces that suffered most during the insecurity situation. This resulted in the disruption of almost all government development efforts in these provinces. Therefore most of the land purchased could not be planned and resettled at that period.

"But since the signing of the Unity Accord, there has been tremendous demand for land in these provinces, to such an extent, that now much more is needed," said Dr Nkomo.

So far, he said, government had concentrated on the social and political objectives of resettlement. "It is now government's intention to equally and vigorously address the economic objectives too. This implies addressing squarely the issues of productivity in all areas.

"Government accepts the role of the commercial farming sector in our economy. However, government is not satisfied that all the land in this sector is effectively being utilised. We would like to be convinced that the current farm sizes are the optimal sizes and that the current methods of production are really cost effective," said Dr Nkomo.

He confirmed that government was now looking into the possibilities of commissioning a socio-economic evaluation of the small-scale and commercial sectors. Such a study, he said, would be conducted in close liaison with all the farmers' unions. "and I therefore appeal for your co-operation in this regard."

There were a lot of young farmers who would like to take up farming as their career. This, however, they could not do in the communal areas. "Therefore government will be looking at the possibilities of acquiring farms and allocating land of reasonable sizes to the young and trained Zimbabweans who would be interested in commercial farming.

"Government is also aware that the resettlement programme alone will not solve the communal area problem. With the assistance of the UNDP [United Nations Development Program], government will start to examine the possibilities of communal area re-organisation which will be part of a wider agrarian reform," he said.

Burkina Faso**Radio Reports 'Confessions' of Coup Plotters**

*AB2009220489 Ouagadougou Domestic Service
in French 1300 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[Summary From Poor Reception] "We have only one item for this news bulletin, and it is the abortive plot by Major Jean-Baptiste Boukary Lengani and Captain Henri Zongo. The two men have confessed, and for more than 1 hour, they explained the reasons and the shady dealings that preceded the mounting of this coup d'etat, as well as the scenario they drew up for the circumstances. And as we promised in our previous newscasts, we are now in a position to let you hear these confessions. You will first of all hear Maj Jean-Baptiste Lengani:"

[Begin recording] [Lengani] All those who came to see me complained that our revolution was in danger, and they gave the impression that our "country was drifting toward new political leanings other than those of the first revolutionaries." They spoke at length about the Popular and Democratic Movement [MDP] and other organizations. These organizations were set up to the detriment of our objectives, and these comrades were not happy about that. One can hardly discern whether all these comrades who came to see me were making indirect suggestions, because others were accusing me.

In any case, each one of them was saying that the initial objectives of the revolution were not like that, and that we have swindled them; they felt swindled. That was the situation.

"When Henri Zongo returned from his trip on Friday, I saw him over the weekend. We discussed all these issues. Before then, I had already spoken to Diendere about it." When I spoke to Diendere, he said the comrades were getting mobilized, and that I had to go settle the situation because they were shocked and surprised, and that the way things were developing was not good. So, you have to think about it. "Well, things continued this way, and following various pressures from these comrades, things continued this way until I called Diendere again, and I told him: You see, this really proves that there is a problem, and perhaps we have to envisage arresting the comrade president when he returns. Yes, it is I who told him that! So I asked him: When is he coming?"

He said he did not have the details, and he expressed some apprehensions. I assured him that even if the comrade president caused a problem, he must be arrested alive. We had to arrest him alive so that he could explain himself to the various revolutionaries before we tried him.

So that is what has led to the situation today. "I was in my office with Captain Koundara. It is I who invited him there. I was explaining to him what to do in case things did not turn out well; this is what to do. It was the time when I was with Captain Koundara. It was when I was explaining the situation to Capt Koundara in my office

that these elements burst into the office to arrest us. And it was during that time that we went out."

[Unidentified questioner] Considering the fact that you did not have time to prepare your ideas well, I have some documents as exhibits. I have a piece of paper here, and I read: The Popular Front, dissolved; condemnation of the members of government, dissolved; creation of CRP, the Popular Revolutionary Council; curfew from 1900 to 0600; borders closed; international agreements maintained; watch on Zoani.

[Lengani] "OK, I wrote all those things." These are all the issues we were discussing in my office with Capt Henri Zongo, and with the instructions on what to do when he arrives during the night.

[Questioner] But you also have a statement which was being prepared in which you talk about sending messages. Who was to send those messages?

[Lengani] I said that no matter what happened, when the comrade president is arrested during the night, we had to alert all the units. We were preparing the message to be sent by Capt Koundara on the piece of paper.

[Questioner] And if your operation had failed, what would you have done? Whom did you plan to call?

[Lengani] This is never done, neither in the military field nor in the political field.

[Questioner] And if you were not able to arrest the comrade president, what would you do?

[Lengani] I had entrusted everything to Capt Diendere.

[Questioner] What were the police to do if you had problems with the Army and the Gendarmerie?

[Lengani] We did not have time to talk about such a situation, so we did not give him any special instructions for the police. But I said that in the eventuality that we envisaged, the police were to report to Capt Diendere, Capt Henri Zongo, and myself.

I think I was a bit naive. "Perhaps I believed in the sincerity of all these comrades who came to contact me, and who presented the case as if there were a crisis in which I had to take up my responsibility—that is all. That is where I was naive, and I opened up to comrades whom I thought were sincere, such as Capt Gilbert Diendere and Henri Zongo. You must put it on record that I have the feeling that I was framed—it is very important—a frame-up in which I was put forward, perhaps so that I could be gotten at easily, and I believed in the sincerity of all these comrades who came to see me as if there were some crisis to be resolved."

[Questioner] "If you had succeeded in arresting the president at the airport, what was to be done? What was envisaged in your plan?"

[Lengani] "I had always given the directive to arrest him alive."

[Questioner] And if there had been any resistance, what would you have done?

[Lengani] There would have been a show of strength and maybe an exchange of fire. [end recording]

AFP Report

AB2109095089 Paris AFP in English 1930 GMT
20 Sep 89

[Text] Ouagadougou, Sept 20 (AFP)—Burkina Faso's national radio on Wednesday broadcast a recording of one hour of confessions of two of the four executed alleged conspirators of Monday's attempted coup d'etat.

In a familiar voice, Major Jean-Baptiste Boukari Lengani, the defense minister and commander of the Armed Forces, said he thought he was "framed."

He accused Captain Gilbert Diendere, chairman of the Defence and Security Commission in the single ruling People's Front, of being an accomplice and then turning against them by alerting security forces of the plot against President Blaise Compaore.

"I've fallen into a trap. I trusted in the sincerity of all my comrades who came to see me as if there was a problem, a crisis," said the former defense minister. "Now I've been betrayed." "Maybe I was naive to be open with those men who I thought were sincere: Capt Henri Zongo and Capt Gilbert Diendere," he added.

Maj Lengani said he planned to arrest Capt Compaore, arranging to have him "taken alive so he could explain his actions before the revolutionaries."

He said his comrades "complained about the rise of ultra-conservatives."

"If they had never complained, I never would have had the idea to arrest Capt Blaise Compaore or to perpetrate a coup d'etat against him."

Answering questions in an aggressive voice, Captain Henri Zongo, former minister for economic promotion, defended his decision to join in the coup attempt.

He recalled that he was informed of the plot "some minutes, perhaps some hours beforehand" by Maj Lengani.

Capt Zongo said the former defense minister was "the boss" who had organized everything "with Diendere."

He repeated several times that he opposed any action jeopardizing "the life of innocent persons."

The radio promised to broadcast the "confession" of a third unnamed conspirator at a later time.

Officials Wednesday said the two others put to death were head of military signals Captain Kundaba and an unnamed bodyguard to Capt Zongo.

Secretary of State for Mines Jean Yado Toe and a schoolteacher, Soumaila Keita, have also been arrested in connection with Monday's attempted coup.

Minister Arrested as Coup Participant

AB2009155089 Paris AFP in English 1416 GMT
20 Sep 89

[Text] Ouagadougou, Sept 20 (AFP)—Two Burkinabe civilians, including a government minister, have been arrested following Monday's [18 September] coup attempt against President Blaise Compaore, officials said here Wednesday.

The two are Secretary of State for Mines Jean Yado Toe and a schoolteacher, Soumaila Keita. Their arrests follow the execution shortly after the coup bid of two key ministers and two other accomplices.

The state news agency said Defence Minister Jean-Baptiste Lengani had been executed after a confession, together with Economic Promotion Minister Henri Zongo.

Officials Wednesday said the two others put to death were head of military signals Captain Kundaba and an unnamed bodyguard to Captain Zongo, not, as first reported, to Major Lengani.

The late defence minister, who was also head of the Armed Forces, stood accused of attempting to kill Capt. Compaore as he returned from a visit to China, Japan and Brunei.

State radio earlier said it would broadcast "confessions" about the failed coup, but the government's chief for "popular structures," Captain Arsene Bongnessan Ye, told political militants these could "never be verified."

Officials added Wednesday that Soumand Toure, former secretary general of the Burkina Confederation Union, was arrested for sending a letter earlier this month to Capt. Compaore asking for permission to reorganize the trade union, which was dissolved by former President Thomas Sankara in 1986.

Capt. Sankara was in turn killed in a bloody uprising in October 1987 when Capt. Compaore, a boyhood friend, seized power.

New Defense Minister, Others Appointed

AB2009195089 Ouagadougou Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The weekly cabinet meeting was held this morning under the chairmanship of Captain Blaise Compaore, chairman of the Popular Front, head of state, and head of the government. The meeting examined the various issues on its agenda. [passage omitted]

Concerning appointments, Lieutenant Badaye Fayama has been appointed permanent secretary of the Ministry of Popular Defense and Security; Major Louis Joani

Yameogo has been appointed commander in chief of the Armed Forces High Command; Gendarmerie Captain Fanda Bertin has been appointed head of the National Gendarmerie Corps; Lieutenant Tanon Pierre has been appointed director general of the national police; Lieutenant Kieri Bouraima has been appointed aide-de-camp to the comrade chairman of the Popular Front, head of state, and head of the government. [passage omitted]

BBC Reports Ouagadougou 'Perfectly Calm'

*AB2009173289 London BBC World Service
in English 1615 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There is still some puzzlement about events in Burkina Faso yesterday. According to the authorities, there was an attempt to oust head of state Captain Blaise Compaore on Monday [18 September] night on his return to Ouagadougou from a trip to Asia. Two of his closest associates since Thomas Sankara was assassinated in October 1987, Jean-Baptiste Lengani and Henri Zongo, were implicated in the plot and subsequently killed. On the line to Ouagadougou, Julien Marshal asked our reporter, Alice Mbouye, how the two men had met their deaths.

[Begin recording] [Mbouye] Well, yesterday, I received reports that both of them were killed, in fact, fleeing the city, on their way out of the city. But apparently Lengani was picked up on Monday during the day and Zongo was arrested at the airport on Monday night, and both were taken to the Conseil de l'Entente and were interrogated at about 3 o'clock Tuesday [19 September] morning. And after questioning, it seems that both were executed, and they have been buried unceremoniously at the Kam-bouenssi Air Base, which is outside of Ouagadougou.

[Marshal] Did they confess before they were executed?

[Mbouye] That is a bit unclear, but according to sources here, on Monday night, the interrogation session was recorded and is now being edited at the radio station for broadcast later on this afternoon.

[Marshal] Now, the authorities say that two other coup plotters were executed: Is it known who they were?

[Mbouye] Well, there were said to be six or so principal figures involved in the coup plot. But we only know the names of Zongo and Lengani right now. And the other man who was picked up is a Captain Koundaba, who is in charge of sending all the military transmissions in Burkina. And he was apparently approached by Lengani on Friday night and told to stand by to receive some kind of a transmission by Lengani to the Armed Forces, and he agreed to do so, and therefore he is implicated, and he was also picked up. But I think the confessions for later on this afternoon will be Zongo and Lengani's.

[Marshal] The authorities have actually given more details about what was involved in the coup plot. What have they been saying?

[Mbouye] Well, Zongo, who accompanied Blaise on his trip to Asia, apparently on Friday night after visiting China asked to return to Ouagadougou to finish a backlog of work. Lengani himself, who remained here, was alleged to have spoken to Gilbert Diendere, who is the head of the Presidential Guard and secretary of the Executive Committee in charge of security here, and he is learned to have indicated that he was considering a coup here. Gilbert did not do anything about this over the weekend, which is a bit odd, everyone agrees. But on Monday, the authorities went to question Lengani, and apparently, as they approached his bodyguard, Lengani himself was said to have jumped out of the window of his office and sustained some kind of an injury, and was then taken.

And Monday night, Zongo, who was at the airport waiting for the president's arrival was left alone for the time being because there was really no proof as yet, and according to the plan, Blaise was going to be arrested upon his arrival, killed if he resisted, and if those on the plane also resisted, the plane was going to be bombarded. And as it turned out, the plane taxied and let Blaise out some distance away from the receiving terminal and the plane arrived at the airport empty. And at that point, Zongo was picked up.

[Marshal] Is there any suspicion that perhaps this whole coup plot was just hatched up by the authorities and it was basically an excuse on the part of Compaore to get rid of Lengani and Zongo?

[Mbouye] It is hard to say as yet. Excuse me. But it has been known for quite a while that there is some tension between the three of them. Blaise's decision to move Zongo and Lengani into powerful positions in his government after he came to power was in a way a moral obligation. I mean, he has done well by them. But there has been some tension, and many people have wondered how long the three of them can share power here, really, because it is essentially an equal division. Blaise cannot do much really without consulting them. So I really cannot comment on that at this point.

[Marshal] What is the mood in Ouagadougou today?

[Mbouye] Yesterday, one would not have known that anything was going on. I moved freely in the city, and today, things are perfectly normal, except that the party newspaper has not hit the newsstands yet. As yesterday, there is really no sign of any disturbance. No more military in the street than usual. In all, everything seems perfectly calm. People are talking, but things seem perfectly calm. [end recording]

Popular Organs Condemn Abortive Coup

*AB2009232689 Ouagadougou Domestic Service
in French 2200 GMT 20 Sep 89*

[Text] Here now is the statement by the popular organizations of Kadiogo Province [includes Ouagadougou]

concerning the 19 September 1989 plot. This is the content, given by the comrade delegate in charge of information of the Provincial Revolutionary Authority [PRP], Adama Kanata.

[Kanata] Statement by the popular organizations of Kadiogo Province on the military and fascist plot of 18 September 1989: Once again, the worst learner of our time, imperialism, through its local lackeys, has recorded a crushing defeat in Burkina Faso. Foiling the military and fascist plot of 18 September 1989, our people and their revolution, while putting a stop to the ambitions of the old and experienced opportunists, demonstrated in this way to all those who dreamt and are still dreaming of installing a regime of oppression and of exploitation of the popular masses in our country, that they will meet with a militant people on their way.

Comrade militants, by recording this new victory in the history of the Popular Democratic Revolution, we must draw from it all the lessons it contains. In fact, the 18 September betrayal comes at a time when our people and their revolution have the most need of peace, serenity, and unity. This treason has been perpetrated by the destroyers who up until yesterday enjoyed the entire confidence of the people.

Finally, it is the work of imperialism in connivance with national reactionary elements. This is why the militants of Kadiogo Province, mobilized within their popular organizations, express their indignation at this treachery, reaffirm their commitment and their determination to fight against opportunists and the liquidator of the August Revolution, and express their unflinching support to the Popular Front.

Down with imperialism! Down with opportunism! Forward with the militant unity around the Popular Front! Forward with the rectification and the march against imperialism! Fatherland or death, we will win!

Compaore Receives Togolese Minister

AB2009235689 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Early this morning, the chairman of the Popular Front received General Yao Amegi, Togolese minister of interior and justice. The Togolese minister pointed out after this audience that he discussed relations between Togo and Burkina Faso with Captain Blaise Compaore. Here is Mr Yao Amegi talking to Koudaogo Sawadogo:

[Begin recording] [Amegi] My delegation and I want to sincerely thank the president of the Republic of Burkina Faso, who kindly received us a few hours after our arrival in your great and beautiful country. As you know, the purpose of our visit is quite simple. Relations between Burkina Faso and Togo are very good, and relations between the president of Burkina Faso and General Eyadema are even better. So it is in connection

with these good relations that from time to time we contact one another. So it is within this context that we are in your country.

As you know, we are neighbors, so Burkinabe should not be indifferent to what is happening in Togo. In the same way, Togolese should not remain indifferent to what is happening in Burkina Faso. That, in a nutshell, is the objective of our visit here.

[Sawadogo] And are you going back satisfied with the talks you had?

[Amegi] Of course, we are very satisfied, because when a brother is slapped, one cannot rejoice over it. [end recording]

Ivory Coast

Houphouet-Boigny Receives Benin Foreign Minister

AB2009010589 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] This evening, the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, received at this private residence in Cocody the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation of Benin, Danial Tawema, who delivered a message from General Mathieu Kerekou. The message concerns strengthening of the friendship ties between Benin and Ivory Coast. Mr Tawema, who was appointed foreign minister last August, was former permanent under-secretary at President Kerekou's office. He came to draw from the wise counsel of President Houphouet-Boigny, as he told the press.

[Begin Tawema recording] I came to present myself to President Houphouet-Boigny. As you all know, I was recently appointed minister of foreign affairs of Benin, so I came to pay my respects to Africa's wise man and draw from his wise counsel. The message mainly concerned the excellent relations existing between Ivory Coast and Benin, whose two peoples have never been in conflict. There is therefore a need to maintain these good relations and to further strengthen and develop them. [end recording]

Niger

AFP: Crashed DC-10 Debris Shows Plane Exploded

AU2109114089 Paris AFP in English 1119 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Paris, Sept 21 (AFP)—Debris of a French DC-10 that crashed with the loss of all 171 people on board shows it exploded in mid-air, with a bomb attack the most likely cause, officials said Thursday.

French military teams flown to the crash site by helicopter reported that a study of the wreckage of the UTA airline plane showed "very clearly" that it was blown

apart as it flew over a remote desert region in Niger on Tuesday on its way to Paris, officials said.

The rescue teams, who flew into the area on Wednesday, said that the wreckage was strewn in a corridor 16 kilometres (10 miles) long and three kilometres (just under two miles) wide.

The Pan Am jumbo jet which was blown up over Scotland last December, killing 270 people, also came down over a wide area in flaming chunks.

The French teams were flown in from their base in Chad. They first spotted a wing and the cockpit among debris over a 10 kilometre stretch, and six kilometres further on there was a black scorch mark and part of the tail section.

The French army was to begin airlifting the bodies of the victims to the Chadian capital Ndjamen on Thursday.

Union des Transports Aerien (UTA) chairman Rene Lapautre said Thursday that a bomb attack was the "most probable" explanation for the crash.

"The attack theory appears to correspond best to the circumstances of the accident, to the conditions under which contact was lost and to initial conclusions based on the nature of the wreckage," Mr. Lapautre said.

All contact was lost with the aircraft shortly after it took off from Ndjamen, pointing to a catastrophic explosion which gave the crew no time to send any distress message. [passage omitted]

Radio: Plane 'Not Shattered'

AB2109072689 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpt] There is a new development in the plane accident: According to a colleague reporter of the RTL [Radio-Tele-Luxembourg], a network of the French radio station who overflew the area of the accident, the plane was not shattered. He said he saw it lying on the sand on one side from a distance of about 10 km with the rear part of the body intact. According to the same reporter, all passengers died in their seats.

If this eyewitness account is confirmed, the explosion theory will no longer be credible. For now, we do not

know exactly what happened. We hope to know more after the return of the various rescue teams that were sent to the accident area. [passage omitted]

Nigeria

Foreign Minister Returns From Angola, Zaire

AB1909184689 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Major General Ike Nwachukwu, returned to Lagos today after a 2-day official visit to Angola and Zaire. The minister delivered special messages from General Ibrahim Babangida to Presidents dos Santos of Angola and Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire. The message was centered on the peace moves to end the crisis in Angola.

In a brief interview with newsmen at Murtala Muhammed Airport, Gen Nwachukwu said Nigeria was no longer throwing money and her weight behind any African problem. The country, he said, would however continue to play what he called a mature and conciliatory role in problems facing the continent. Although Gen Nwachukwu described the Angolan crisis as complex, he said he was optimistic that a lasting solution would be found for it eventually.

Senegal

President Diouf Returns From Cape Verde

AB2009153389 Paris AFP in French 2254 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Dakar, 19 Sep (AFP)—President Abdou Diouf returned to Dakar on Tuesday afternoon after a working visit of a few hours to Sal Island in Cape Verde, where he met with his Cape Verdian counterpart, Aristides Pereira. The two presidents held private talks, while delegations of the two countries which were headed by their foreign ministers, held working sessions, according to the special correspondent of the Senegalese radio. The radio did not comment on a possible conflict over the demarcation of the territorial waters of the two countries, as is being circulated in diplomatic circles in Dakar.

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